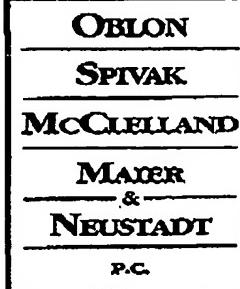


December 4, 2006



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
2051 Jamieson Avenue
Suite 300
Alexandria, VA

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
KATHLEEN A. MORSBERGER
CONTROLLER
(703) 412-6494
KMORSBERGER@OBLON.COM

Attn: Refund Department

Re: Deposit Account Number 150030

Dear Sir or Madame:

Enclosed is a copy of a portion of our Deposit Account Statement of October 2006. Please review the highlighted charge on Serial Number 10/670,528, in the amount of \$120.00 ou see code number 1251.

This charge is in error as the October 24, 2006 Request for Continued Examination was previously filed timely on September 14, 2006 and therefore, no extension was needed.

Please review this application and kindly refund \$120.00 to deposit account number 150030. Copies of the appropriate paperwork are attached. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Lohr at (703) 412-6472. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

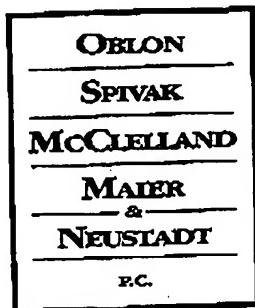

Scott Lohr

Enclosure: Deposit Account Statement

1940 DUKE STREET ■ ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314 ■ U.S.A.
TELEPHONE: 703-413-3000 ■ FACSIMILE: 703-413-2220 ■ www.oblon.com

PAGE 2/23 * RCVD AT 12/4/2006 3:10:27 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/8 * DNIS:2736500 * CSID:703 413 2220 * DURATION (mm:ss):05:10

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314
USA(703) 413-3000
(703) 413-2220 FACSIMILE

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8		
NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:		CONFIRM FAX: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
FROM	Scott Lohr	OUR REFERENCE
NAME	703-412-6472	YOUR REFERENCE
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Deposit Account Statement

Requested Statement Month:

Deposit Account Number:

Name:

Attention:

Address:

City:

State

Zip:

Court

1

DATE SE

October 2006

150030

NORMAN F. OBLON

1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA
VA
22314
UNITED STATES

DATE SEQ	POSTING REF TXT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NBR	fee CODE	AMT	BAL
10/02 75	11249404	279727TW (KTY/FF-DEPT.)	8007	\$20.00	\$38,65
10/02 231	0153000265	242142 CA (KTY/FF.DEPT.)	8014	\$25.00	\$38,63
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10/02 13	10553994	279784US2PCT	1614	\$400.00	\$38,21
10/02 37	10562121	283426US0PCT	1615	-\$150.00	\$38,36
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10/03 1	10849171	252646US0	1202	\$350.00	\$37,69
10/03 1	11428969	293367US0	1202	\$200.00	\$37.49
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10/05 58	11239216	279114US90	1806	-\$180.00	\$36,38
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10/05 60	10490737	251414US0PCT	1252	-\$450.00	\$37,01
10/05 61	10813036	250464US6	1806	-\$180.00	\$37,19
10/05 62	10675967	243449US90	1201	-\$200.00	\$37,39
10/05 63	10889931	254570US0CONT	1806	-\$180.00	\$37,57
10/05 64	10312554	232273US6PCT	1201	-\$200.00	\$37,77
10/05 67	10534522	272237US0PCT	1201	-\$400.00	\$38,17

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DEC. 4, 2006, 3:14PM ~~sent~~ OBLON SPIVAK

NO. 357 Page 4¹⁴

10/27 1	10500288	261572US0PCT	1811	-\$100.00	\$29.28
10/30 34	0165850844	251722US/KQU	8014	\$75.00	\$29.19
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10/30 136	60791207	289832US/KQU	8007	\$100.00	\$28.08
10/30 191	60776195	286859US/KQU	8007	\$20.00	\$28.06
10/30 261	60741909	282151US/KQU	8007	\$20.00	\$28.04
10/31 28	60842365		1463	-\$200.00	\$27.84
10/31 29	60836946		1463	\$200.00	\$27.64
10/31 1	10670528	236706US6	1251	\$120.00	\$27.52
10/31 297	7042704	264687USD/KQU	8013	\$25.00	\$27.49
START BALANCE		SUM OF CHARGES	SUM OF REPLENISH		END BALANCE
\$38,679.71		\$18,125.00	\$6,942.00		\$27,498.71

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NO. 357-²¹⁴P. 5



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APPLICATION NO.	FILED DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,528	09/26/2003	Sylvia Mansheimer	236706US6	6515
22850	7590	09/28/2006		
C. IRVIN MCCLELLAND OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
			EXAMINER	
			COZART, JENNIE S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3726	
DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

PAGE 5/23 * RCVD AT 12/4/2006 3:10:27 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/8 * DMS:2736500 * CSID:703 413 2220 * DURATION (mm:ss):05:10

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Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/670,528	MONSHEIMER ET AL
	Examiner Jermie Cozart	Art Unit 3726

-The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -

THE REPLY FILED 14 September 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because

- (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
- (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 10,13,17,20,24,27,31,34,38,40 and 41.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 11,12,18,19,25,26,32,33,35-37 and 39.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

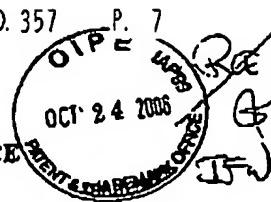
12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____

13. Other: _____

JERMIE E. COZART
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DEC. 4, 2006 3:14PM OBLON SPIVAK

NO. 357



Docket No.: 236706US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sylvia MONSHEIMER, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/670,528

GAU: 3726

FILED: September 26, 2003

EXAMINER: J.E. COZART

FOR: PIPE CONNECTION

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Previously Submitted:

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on September 14, 2006
 Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

Enclosed:

- Amendment/Reply
 Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 Other:

FEES	RATE	CALCULATIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of months.	\$200.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE Fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c)	\$790.00	\$790.00
<input type="checkbox"/>		\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>		\$0.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS:		\$790.00
<input type="checkbox"/> REDUCTION BY 50% FOR FILING AS SMALL ENTITY		\$0.00
TOTAL:		\$790.00

- A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed
 Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$790.00
 Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

18/25/2006 SIEVDIE1 00000044 18670528

AI FC:1881

790.00 US

James J. Kelly, Ph.D.
Registration No. 41,504

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220

DEC. 4. 2006 3:15PM OBLON SPIVAK

NO. 357 P. 8

DOCKET NO: 236706US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

SYLVIA MONSHEIMER, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: J.E. COZART

SERIAL NO: 10/670,528

:

FILED: SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3726

FOR: PIPE CONNECTION

*OK for entry
per RCE purpose*
AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated May 24, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

A discussion of the Support for the Amendments begins on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Document code: WFEE

United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Adjustment date: 12/14/2006 ZJUHAR1
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